



The 2007
Library of Michigan
and
Library of Michigan
Foundation

an•nu•al
re•port

Dear friends,

We're pleased to offer you a snapshot of the year 2007 for the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation. This year was about redefining ourselves, taking a closer look at the programming and services we make available to the public and to the library community. Even as we worked to enhance the Library of Michigan's collections and learning opportunities, we were aware that we did so in an environment marked with financial uncertainty. Every decision was made with deliberation.

To the hundreds of supporters who have generously demonstrated their genuine interest in and encouragement for the Library and our Foundation, we thank you. Michigan is at a crossroads, but Michigan librarians are eternal masters of the mantra "do more with less" and those at the Library of Michigan are all too familiar with the concept. However, rather than be defined by the struggle, we have worked to rewrite the story of 2007 as one of accomplishment, discovery and success.

Throughout this report, you may read about a program, service or collection in more than one spot. That's because the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation are so closely aligned in their missions. Regardless under which header – the Library or the Foundation – you read about 2007, rest assured it was a team effort and, certainly, a defining year for everyone!

Sincerely,



Nancy R. Robertson
State Librarian

Robert T. Wilson
President, Library of Michigan Foundation

ad•vo•cates

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MeL ReMix Provides Great Blend of Information

The Michigan eLibrary (MeL, at <http://mel.org>) is no stranger to the concept of redefining itself. First made available to the public with 24-hour remote access (using a Michigan state ID card or driver's license) in summer 2002, MeL.org underwent a thorough retooling in early 2007. The newly integrated components and services, intuitive navigation and enhanced content were geared to meet users' changing information needs regarding business, school, health, recreation, all things Michigan and much more.

MeL.org continues to be a huge boost to Michigan's libraries and the many residents who rely on it for quality information. Thanks in part to \$3.8 million in funding provided through the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) via the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Library of Michigan offers MeL resources to libraries statewide. If every library in the state were to offer the same set of core MeL resources to its customers, the collective price tag would approach over \$89 million.



Mich·i·gan e·Li·brar·y:

1. a cutting-edge information resource for Michigan residents, providing 24-hour access to:

- MeL Pathfinders, dozens of subject searches from agriculture and education to science and the environment;
- MeL Databases, a collection of full-text articles from magazines, journals and newspapers, and digital e-books;
- MeL Catalog (MeLCat), a place for Michigan residents to find and request lending materials from a growing list of participating Michigan libraries; and
- MeL Michigana, a growing collection of digitized historical resources from throughout Michigan.

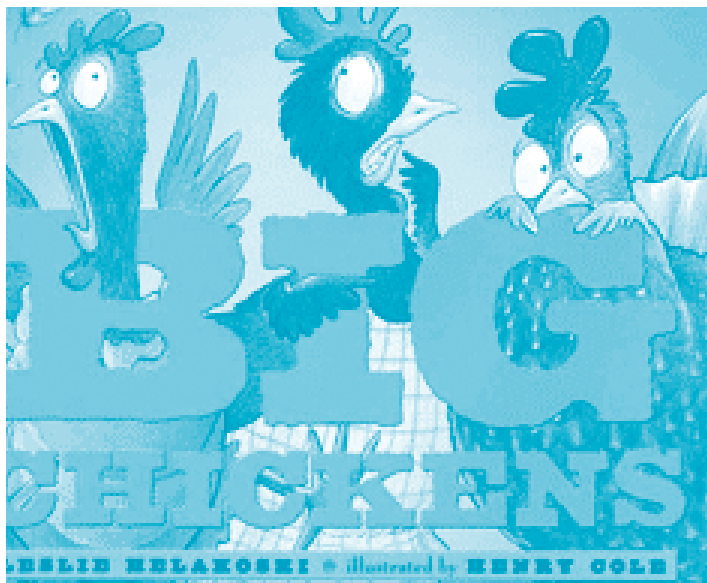
In early spring 2007, State Librarian Robertson and LM staffers set out on the road for a “town meeting” tour. What could compel the group to travel in a short time frame from Brighton and Detroit to Alpena and Escanaba and many more places in between? That’s easy: the opportunity to hear firsthand the many creative ideas and suggestions from librarians in the field. The give-and-take of information was terrific, helping lay the groundwork for Michigan library service long-term goals.

Much of what emerged from these meetings helped shape the latest **LSTA five-year plan** for Michigan, a framework to set priorities for Michigan’s federal funding. It became quickly apparent that the best way to help was to support statewide access to electronic materials, resource sharing and training, and ensuring a basic, equitable level of service, materials and professionalism to users statewide. Read the full LSTA five-year plan at <http://www.michigan.gov/lsta>.

Michigan Reads! and Michigan Notable Books Draw in Record Numbers

With the growth of the Michigan Reads! one-state, one-children’s-book program, the Library continues its march to boost early-childhood literacy and the image of public libraries as the “go to” resource for parents’ and caregivers’ literacy needs.

In fall 2007, Michigan author Leslie Helakoski’s **“Big Chickens”** helped scare up big interest in the tale of four timid chickens who manage to overcome obstacles and their fears on a humorous romp through the woods. Thanks to generous support of program sponsors Target and the Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Reads! learning kits (including books, reading guides, posters, stickers and more) were distributed to nearly 5,000 public libraries, Head Start learning centers, Reading Readiness programs and K-2 grade school classrooms. Author Helakoski gave readings and presentations at eight libraries and schools, reaching thousands of kids and their families. Learn more at <http://www.michigan.gov/michiganreads>.



For the reader with more diverse tastes, the Library's Michigan Notable Books program fits the bill. The 2007 Notable Books list touched on topics as varied as the hopeful story of Covert, a Michigan town that became racially integrated in the 19th century; essays and poetry inspired by Michigan and the Great Lakes; and mysteries and youth fiction set in Michigan's apple orchards and resort communities.

The Michigan Notable Books program is redefining the very notion of Michigan literature, making it possible for more residents each year to attend program-sponsored author visits and presentations at Michigan's libraries. The spring 2007 tour scheduled authors for nearly 70 presentations along the Michigan Notable Books Author Tour, a record number of stops. See what's notable this year at <http://www.michigan.gov/notablebooks>.

PAC HUG Grants Help Libraries Upgrade Public Computers

In winter 2007, the Library of Michigan announced the second round of grants – totaling more than \$2.1 million – in Public Access Computer Hardware Upgrade Grant (PAC HUG) program dollars, part of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries program. The grants are geared to level the technological playing field for roughly 200 libraries in disadvantaged communities by helping to replace public access computers. In round two, libraries in 72 counties received 761 computers.

“Go into any Michigan library and you'll see the public access computers are in use from the time the library opens until it closes,” said State Librarian Robertson. “In order to learn, do business, train for employment, find job openings, or just stay connected to family and friends, the Internet is a vital tool ... and libraries have become increasingly critical to helping citizens move their lives forward by keeping that technological bridge intact and accessible for everyone.”

Moves Help Library Redefine Efficiency for Residents & Government

The year 2007 saw important developments in how the Library interacts with the customers it serves, both within and outside of state and local government, and several creative moves will aid staff in meeting customers' needs.

For example, the **Office of the State Demographer** housed within the Library of Michigan has welcomed an increasing number of inquiries about statistics on employment, population, education and housing. This office has worked diligently to provide state, regional and local government representatives with the data needed for informed decisions and long-term planning. The Library's Census Web site – www.michigan.gov/census – provides expansive demographic information and accompanying analysis to help explain its relevance to Michigan's changing landscape.

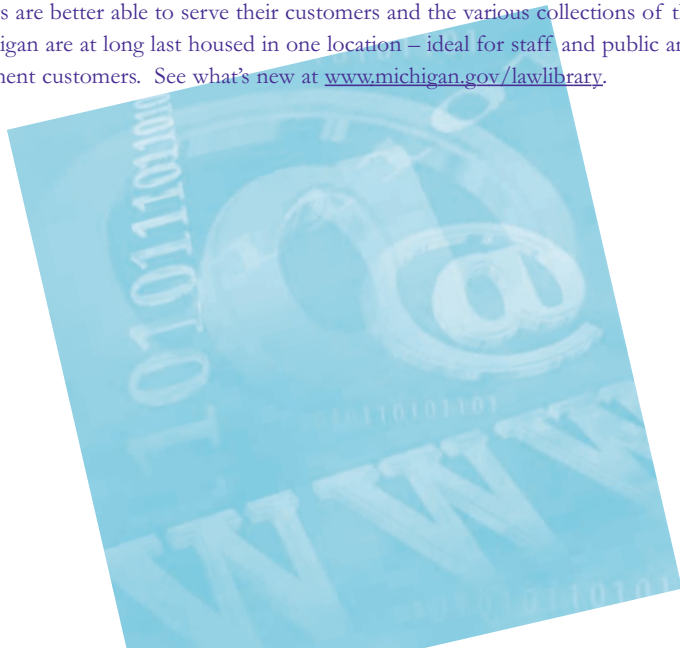
data experts:

the Library of Michigan's Census and Statistical Data Center provides analysis and key insights about our state's population trends and their effects on employment, education, housing and other important sectors. Learn more at www.michigan.gov/census

A rapidly changing technological landscape led State Librarian Robertson to revise the **Michigan Documents Depository Program**, a move that helps streamline the way “documents” are saved for posterity. The new program consolidated the number of depository libraries from 54 to 11 and changed the primary format for documents acquired and preserved from print to electronic.

Selected publications - those included on the Core List of Michigan Documents (standard sources of information for any library in Michigan regardless of size or type) and documents not issued electronically - are still distributed to the depositories in print form. However, the majority of Michigan documents are captured and preserved in digital formats via the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Digital Archive and made available in ANSWER, the Library of Michigan's online catalog, as well as the Michigan eLibrary Catalog (MeLCat) and WorldCat.

After several years of planning, the **State Law Library** collection and staff moved into their permanent home within the Library of Michigan in summer 2007. Law Library staff members are better able to serve their customers and the various collections of the Library of Michigan are at long last housed in one location – ideal for staff and public and government customers. See what's new at www.michigan.gov/lawlibrary.



Library of Michigan Service Statistics for the Year Ended Sept. 30, 2007

Main Library

Directional questions received at service desks (includes circulation, Ask Us Live, and Internet users)	18,158
Reference questions received at service desks, Ask Us Live, mail, and research requests including e-mail	19,896
Document delivery requests	301
InterLibrary Loan requests filled/unfilled	12,371
Items circulated	10,869
Other genealogy assistance (microfiche/film, census, stacks)	13

Main Library Total Transactions 61,608

Law Library

Directional questions received at service desks	422
Reference questions received at service desks and research requests including e-mail	5,524
Document delivery requests	385
Items circulated	35

Law Library Total Transactions 6,366

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH)

Items circulated	225,614
Reference questions received at service desks	8,933

SBPH Total Requests 234,547

Total Division Transactions 302,521

Breakdown of Transactions by Patron Group

Public	281,356
Libraries	14,998
Michigan government (non-legislative)	5,581
Michigan legislative offices	554
Non-Michigan and federal legislative offices	32

Total Division Transactions 302,521

Stack Management

Number of items stacked at Main	155,211
Number of items stacked at Law	3,027

Total Number of Items Shelved 158,238

Number of Visitors at Main Library 94,881

NOTES: 1.) The Library of Michigan continues to be closed on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2.) The Library of Michigan is closed on Sundays, effective April 2006. 3.) The Law Library was closed from July 2-Aug. 4, 2007, due to the move to the Michigan Library and Historical Center. 4.) AUL is closed during August and September 2007 due to a switch to and training on new software.



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Support and Funding

The Library of Michigan Foundation was established in 1985 to raise funds for special programs of the Library of Michigan that are otherwise not provided for through state or federal funding. The Foundation is a non-profit, 501c (3), tax-exempt organization governed by an independent board of directors that represents different geographical locations in Michigan.

In its 23-year history, the Foundation has raised more than \$4 million to provide support to vital Library of Michigan programs and services, including more than \$2 million to develop the Library's genealogical collection – one that attracts researchers and visitors from throughout the Great Lakes region and clear across the country.

Thanks to the support of its donors, the Library of Michigan Foundation made grants to the following Library of Michigan special collections and programs:

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

This year's contributions to SBPH included new adaptive technologies to assist visually impaired patrons and SBPH staff members to do research assignments, explore the Web, check email, and read mail and prescription labels, newspapers, legal documents, etc. The new adaptive equipment included, for example:

CCTV (Closed Circuit Television): for partially sighted patrons, allows patrons to read books or documents, see pictures or balance a checkbook, and accommodates just about any visual disability.

Trekker: a GPS (global positioning system) with speech, allows a person who is blind to know where he or she is at any given moment, providing freedom to plan a route or locate a favorite destination.

Muvo: a small audio playback device capable of playing e-audio books that have been transferred to it from a computer, allows patrons to request books not available in the SBPH collection.

Kurzweil 1,000 Software: An upgrade of the existing Kurzweil 1,000 software, which works in conjunction with a computer and scanner to convert printed text to speech, helping patrons to read textbooks that are not available in other accessible formats.

Beyond SBPH, the Foundation's efforts paid off in other key ways:

Rare Book Collection

The Library added nearly 70 unusual titles and materials in 2007, enhancing its one-of-a-kind collection. Some standout titles include:

"All Bucks Are Trophies" by Myrland Grimm (Hillsdale, Mich.: M. Grimm, 1990) – this appears to be the only publicly available copy.

"I Remember Three Rivers" by George M. Dexter (United States: s.n., 1945?) offers a quaint description small-town Michigan life.

"Messenger of the Holy Childhood Church and School, Harbor Springs, Mich." (Harbor Springs, Mich. [The Church and School], (1906-07) – this makes the Library one of very few with a nearly full collection of this title.

Martin Frost Reception

In early spring, the Library and Foundation hosted "The Curious Art of Fore-Edge Painting" with internationally known artist Martin Frost, who described the origin and progress of fore-edge painting and offered a display of painted books from his own collection. An art form dating back to mid-17th-century Europe and continued today by just a few artists, fore-edge painting is done on the top, side or bottom edges of a book's fanned-out pages.

Abrams Genealogy Collection

Several important additions were made this year, among them the 1911 Canadian census records (196 reels), the 1855 Wisconsin census records (73 reels) and the 1840-1950 Northern District of Illinois naturalization indexes (179 reels).

Rural Libraries Conference

What began as a grassroots effort in 1985 has grown to be the premier Michigan event for small and rural libraries' staff, trustees and friends. The May 2007 conference, with support from the Library of Michigan Foundation Loleta Fyan Memorial Fund and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, gave more than 400 people the opportunity to examine new aspects of library service.

"Night for Notables"

The Library of Michigan Foundation hosted former Governor William G. Milliken and Dave Dempsey - author of "William G. Milliken: Michigan's Passionate Moderate," a 2007 Michigan Notable Book - as featured speakers for mid-April's "Night for Notables." The program at the Library of Michigan and Historical Center offered guests many opportunities for mingling, book-signing and asking questions about the work of the 2007 Notables authors.

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and First Gentleman Dan Mulhern were on hand at a pre-event reception at the Governor's Residence to welcome guests, praise the authors' efforts, and accept signed copies of the 2007 Michigan Notable Books for the residence library.

Mi•chi•gan no•ta•ble books:

One of the Library of Michigan's most successful programs, MNB annually selects 20 of the most notable books published the previous year, selections that are reflective of Michigan's diverse ethnic, historical, literary and cultural experience.

State Librarian's Excellence Award

Every year, the Foundation pays tribute to the innovative work being done statewide by libraries of all types and sizes and – with the State Librarian's Excellence Award – recognizes one for exemplary customer service. This honor includes a \$5,000 award, sponsored by Southfield-based Hantz Group. In fall 2006, State Librarian Robertson announced that the 2006 SLEA winner was Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled, with \$1,000 Citations of Excellence cash awards (sponsored by Edward Surovell Realtors) going to Spring Lake District Library and White Pigeon Township Library.

Genealogy Appreciation Day

On a Saturday afternoon in October (during Family History Month), the Library of Michigan and the Foundation hosted a special event in appreciation of Michigan's genealogy community for its terrific support of Library programs and services. On that day, Peggy Sawyers Williams was presented with the Library of Michigan's Genealogy Achievement Award.

Mrs. Williams served as the president of The Fred Hart Williams Genealogy Society – one of the oldest African American genealogical societies in the country – from 1999 through 2006, and also served in many other capacities during her 26-year membership. Mrs. Williams is an experienced genealogist who has conducted numerous genealogical workshops in the Detroit and Ann Arbor areas.

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended Sept. 30, 2007

Support & Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Contributions	\$63,447	\$1,073,024	\$32,113	\$1,168,584
In-kind contributions	85,994	-	-	85,994
Workshops	4,945	-	-	4,945
Investment income	177,950	61,505	96	239,551
Net assets released from Restrictions	1,762,514	(1,762,514)	-	-
Total Support and Revenue	2,094,850	(627,985)	32,209	1,499,074
Grants & Expenses				
Program services – support of Library of Michigan collections and services	1,766,074	-	-	1,766,074
Supporting services – Administrative and general (including in-kind expenses of \$85,994)	137,171	-	-	137,171
Fundraising	66,180	-	-	66,180
Total Expenses	1,969,425	-	-	1,969,425
Change in net assets	125,425	(627,985)	32,209	(470,351)
Net Assets				
Beginning net assets	328,397	3,233,489	771,482	4,333,368
Ending Net Assets President's Circle	\$453,822	\$2,605,504	\$803,691	\$3,863,017

The Library of Michigan Foundation gratefully acknowledges its loyal donors who, through their financial support, provided funding for many special projects at the Library of Michigan in fiscal year 2007. This list includes donors whose financial gifts were received between Oct. 1, 2006, and Sept. 30, 2007. A heartfelt thanks to all!

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